

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP2003/014596 filed December 19, 2003**

**REMARKS**

Claims 24-52 are currently pending in the instant application.

The Specification has been amended to delete the original section headings and to insert the preferred section headings pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.77. The title of the invention is now included under the proper heading. An Abstract of the Disclosure, in accordance with the disclosure, has been added. It is submitted that the amendments to the Specification made herein introduce no new matter. A separate page containing a clean copy of the Abstract of the Disclosure has been attached for the Examiner's convenience. New paragraphs and Section Headings have been added in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(i) & (iii), and paragraph deletions indicated in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(i) & (iv). Entry of the amendments to the Specification made herein is therefore proper and respectfully requested.

Original claims 1-23 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 24-52 in order to improve clarity and grammar, which may suffer in translation, to remove multiple dependencies and to better conform with appropriate claim form, and not for any reason which relates to the statutory requirements for a patent. New claims 24-52 have not been added in response to any rejection, nor in anticipation of any rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of new claim 24-52 generally corresponds to the scope of original claims 1-23, and that new claims 24-52 are no narrower than original claims 1-23. Furthermore, although a moot point in view of their cancellation, Applicants respectfully submit that original claims 1-23 satisfied the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, as filed. New claims 24-52 are supported by the claims as originally filed and in the Specification; and in the Examples. No new matter has been introduced. A complete listing of all claims ever presented is included herein in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c). Entry is therefore proper and respectfully requested.

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Prompt examination of the instant application in view of the amendments made herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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